images of Hindu Gods on shoes, lingeries etc. and disrespecting Hinduism in various forms; and

(b) If so, what initiative has been taken through diplomatic and political channels to stop such abuse of Hinduism in other parts of the world?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) It has been reported recently that a French private company M/s Vivarte had depicted the images of Hindu Gods on its Mineli brand footwear.

(b) Our Mission in Paris had immediately taken up this issue with M/s Vivarte urging the company to withdraw the footwear from the market. Subsequently several reports have confirmed that the company had indeed withdrawn several containers of the said shoes from the market. The matter is being closely monitored by our Missions in the European countries. Our Missions abroad take corrective action, when any such instances come to their attention.

Countries without diplomatic relations

404. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the countries with which India does not have diplomatic relations;

(b) the countries with which India has extradition treaty and those with which the negotiations for the same are in progress; and

(c) the advantages and disadvantages of not having diplomatic relations and extradition treaty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) India has diplomatic relations with all the member countries of the United Nations.

(b) The details are given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) The advantages of having diplomatic relations are that the countries concerned can have interaction with each other in accordance with international law and diplomatic practice for cooperation in various fields. The bilateral agreements or treaties are signed if there are diplomatic relations with the countries concerned. The advantages of having

extradition treaties are that they provide legal basis/framework and treaty obligations for seeking extradition of fugitive criminals.

Statement

Status of Extradition Treaties Between India and other countries

Sl. No.	Signed and in operation	Signed only (Yet to be ratified)	Initialled only (Yet to be signed)	Under various stages of negotiation	Extradition arragnements
1.	Belgium	Philipines	Malaysia	Portugal	Australia
2.	Bhutan	Bahrain	Kazakhstan	Belarus	Fiji
3.	Canada	Bulgaria	Nepal (New Treaty)	Brazil	Italy
4.	Hong kong	Tajikistan		Croatia	Papua new Guinea
5.	Nepal (old treaty)	Mauritius		Cuba	Singapore
6.	Netherlands	Ukraine		Czech Republic	Sri Lanka
7.	Russia	France		Egypt	Sweden
8.	Switzerland	South Africa		Ghana	Tanzania
9.	UAE	Kuwait		Greece	Thailand
10.	U.K.	Oman		Iran	Portugal
11.	USA			Italy	
12.	Uzbekistan			Japan	
13.	Spain			Jordan	
14.	Mongolia			Israel	
15.	Turkey			Kyrghyzstan	
16.	Germany			Lithuania	
17.	Tunisia			Senegal	
18.	Poland			New Zealand	
19.	Republic of Korea			Nigeria	
20.				Qatar	
21.				Romania	
22.				Singapore	
23.				Seychelles	
24.				Sudan	
25.				Thailand	
26				Uganda	
27.				Yemen	
28.				Peru	
29.				Mexico	
30.				Paraguay	

As on July, 2005